

BEFORE THE MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Gregory Scott
Joel Jacobs
Marshall Johnson
Edward Garvey
LeRoy Koppendraye

Chair
Commissioner
Commissioner
Commissioner
Commissioner

In the Matter of **Garden Valley Telephone Company's** Request for Approval of Certified Actual Costs Associated with the **Kittson County** 911 Emergency Telephone Services System

ISSUE DATE: August 18, 2000

DOCKET NO. **P409/ES-99-1740**

ORDER APPROVING CERTIFIED 911
SYSTEM COSTS

BACKGROUND

On April 13, 1982, the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (the Commission) approved Kittson County's final plan for the establishment of a 911 Emergency Telephone Services System.

On May 26, 1987, the Commission approved the actual costs Wikstrom Telephone Company incurred for placing a portion of a 911 Emergency Telephone Service in Kittson County.

On March 16, 1988, the Commission approved the initial costs U S West Communications, Inc. (formerly known as Northwestern Bell) incurred for placing a portion of a 911 Emergency Telephone Service in Kittson County.

On October 26, 1988, the Commission approved U S West Communications, Inc.'s second costs certification for their portion of the 911 Emergency System in Kittson County.

On November 10, 1988, the Commission approved the actual costs GTE Telephone Company (formerly known as Contel) incurred for placing a portion of a 911 Emergency Telephone Service in Kittson County.

On December 12, 1995, the Commission approved the actual costs Polar Communications incurred for their portion of a 911 Emergency System in Kittson County.

On May 1, 2000, the Commission approved actual costs Independent Emergency Services Limited Liability Company (IES, LLC) incurred for installing tandem based E911 Automatic Number Identification (ANI) services for the 911 Emergency Services system in Kittson County.

CURRENT FILING

In 1998, Kittson County contracted with Garden Valley Telephone Company (the Company) to install their portion of 911 service in the Kittson County 911 Emergency Services system.

On June 22, 1999, the Company installed inter-exchange, outswitch trunks to the Donaldson, Drayton, Hallock, Halma, Humbolt, Karlstad, Kennedy, Lake Bronson, Lancaster, St. Vincent, and Strandquist Exchanges. Public Service Answering Points (PSAP) circuits have been installed between Erskine to Hallock and Turtle River to Hallock PSAP's. Two Inter-tandem trunks have been installed between Erskine to Turtle River, and a transfer line to Erskine. The Company has made these trunk additions and modifications to add ANI to their portion of the 911 Emergency Telephone Services System in Kittson County.

On December 7, 1999, the Company certified the actual costs it incurred for the provision of the trunk circuits to add ANI service.

The Company is now requesting Commission approval of the actual 911 Emergency System and ANI system costs. Commission approval is necessary before the Department of Administration (DOA) will make payments for 911 system costs.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

Minn. Stat. Section 403.11, subd. 3 states:

Subd. 3 (METHOD OF PAYMENT; CERTIFICATION.) A public utility incurring reimbursable costs under subdivision 1 or 2 shall certify those costs to the commissioner of administration. The certification shall be in a form as prescribed by the commissioner after consultation with the public utilities commission. If the commissioner and the commission approve the certified costs as appropriate and accurate, the commissioner shall pay the certified costs from money appropriated for that purpose within 90 days following receipt by the commissioner of the certified costs. The commissioner of administration shall estimate the amount required to reimburse public utilities for the state's obligations under subdivisions 1 and 2 of this section and the governor shall include the estimated amount in the biennial budget request.

Garden Valley Telephone Company has certified, in writing, that the elements of 911 services and associated costs indicated on Attachment A, reflect only charges for services actually rendered in the direct provision of 911 service in Kittson County.

All charges listed on Attachment A are in accordance with the Company's tariffs.

The Commission finds that the costs for 911 Emergency Telephone Service in Kittson County which have been certified by the Company are appropriate and accurate.

Policy References:

Minn. Stat. Section 403.11 System Costs

Minn. Rules, pt. 1215.1400 Funding Eligibility/Payment of Recurring Costs

Minn. Rules, pt. 1215.1500 Funding Eligibility/Payment of Central Office Modification Costs

ORDER

1. The costs identified on Attachment A accompanying this Order are approved as appropriate and accurate pursuant to the Commission's March 21, 2000 Standing Order Designating Filings Requesting Certification of 911 Costs As Filings Subject to Approval Under Minn. Stat. § 216A.03, Subd. 7, Docket No. P-999/CI-99-1723.
2. This Order does not approve payment of any 911 system costs. Any possible future approval of payment for system costs shall be granted by the Commissioner of the Department of Administration in accordance with the provisions of Minn. Stat. Section 403.11.
3. This Order shall become effective immediately.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

Burl W. Haar
Executive Secretary

(S E A L)

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STATE OF MINNESOTA)
)SS
COUNTY OF RAMSEY)

AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE

I _____, being first duly sworn, deposes and says:

That on the ____ day of _____, 2000 (s)he served the attached **Order Approving Certified 911 System Costs for Kittson County 911 Emergency Telephone Service Docket No. P409/ES-99-1740.**

XX By depositing in the United States Mail at the City of St. Paul, a true and correct copy thereof, properly enveloped with postage prepaid

XX By personal service

XX By inter-office mail

to all persons at the addresses indicated below or on the attached list:

MR BILL SCHNELLMAN
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Subscribed and sworn to before me, _____

a notary public, this _____ day of

_____, 2000.

Notary Public